

SC-17

Preliminary Interrogation of
OGAWA, Shunji

Sgt. R.C. Parsons Dr. E.H. Norman

26 December 1945

I. INTRODUCTION

Ogawa was interrogated primarily to determine the part played by his language institute in spreading the Japanese espionage network over East Asia; to discover what was the role played in this same field by the East Asia Economic Bureau; to uncover what links existed between these two organizations and the TOKUMI KIKAN, and to complete our knowledge of the societies with which Ogawa was associated.

In some respects the results are unsatisfactory, since Ogawa denies (almost with pious horror) the very idea that the men whom he trained and planted throughout the countries of East Asia, were, in fact, engaged in active espionage. But a useful amount of information has come to light regarding the part played by the Foreign Office in using graduates of his school.

Later on, it is intended that Ogawa shall be re-interrogated, and other subjects included, such as present day societies and organizations, their membership, ramifications, and sources of funds.

2. Dr. Shunji OGAWA - CURRICULUM.

1886 (19th Yr of Meiji) Born at Yamagata-Ken (N.E. of Tokyo).
1907 Entered Tokyo Imperial University, where he studied Science of religion, and oriental philosophy.
1921 Graduated.
1912-1918 (1912 1st Yr of Taisho) Devoted all his energies to the study of Indian philosophy; research into present day India; colonial history and colonial policy. Translated into Japanese various economic works; wrote articles for periodicals; mainly studies on the religions of the east.
1919 Given appointment in the Oriental Research Bureau of the South Manchurian Railway Company. This bureau carried out economic research into the resources of the countries of Greater East Asia, and OGAWA's particular brief was to study the colonial methods of the powers. In same year, founded, together with KITA, Iddi, the YUSOKU SHI (lit. the yet remains society). See para 5 below.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

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1923

Obtained degree of Doctor of Law
Founded GIOCHISHA. See para 5 below.
Appointed section chief in the economic bureau.
(2nd yr of

1931

Shomei) Appointed director of bureau, which now became
an independent organization, divorced from the
Manchurian Railway Company.
(Denies any connection with abortive March incident,
involving Generals Oshima, Langer and Tetsuoka)
Founded Jinsen Kai (Jinsen Society). See Para 5 below.
Involved in May 15th Affair.
Arrested June (along with TACHIBANA, Kameburo; TOYAMA,
Hidoro; KOBAYASHI, Kameburo and others).

1933

(October - sentenced finally to 6 years imprisonment.
Due to ill-health was not immediately incarcerated.

1936

June - prison.

1937

October - released. Rejoined East Asia Economic
Investigation Bureau, purely as advisor.

1938

April - opened his Language Institute. At the same
time the Economic Investigation Bureau was re-
incorporated into the South Manchurian Railway
Company.

1939

Visited Shanghai on two occasions.

1940

Visited Shanghai, Peking, Tientsin.

1941

Visited Shanghai.

1942

In Shanghai for nearly 3 months, during which time
HORO, Takashi, ran the language school.

1943

Two further visits to Shanghai.

1944

One visit to Shanghai.

1945

January to March - Shanghai; remained with the school
until May, when it was destroyed. Incarcerated by
SCAF order of 3 December.

When with the research bureau of the South Manchurian Railway
Company, OGAWA had occasion to travel on numerous occasions to
Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking and Harbin. In 1922 he spent eight
months in Java, and also visited the Celebes; on this particular
trip he stayed for approximately three days at Hong Kong.

After the foundation of his language institute, his travels
did not take him further than Shanghai, Peking and Tientsin.

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OGAWA has fairly fluent English, less fluent Chinese; reads French, German and Sanskrit.

3. a. Foreign Language Institute (TOA KETEAI CHOSA KYOKAI
FUJIKI KENKIU-JO)

OGAWA asserts that this language school (founded in April 1938) was the child of his own mind, the East Asia Economic Investigation Bureau exercising no direct control over the school, though certain of the instructors (including KATACKA, Kinsaku, and MAEJIMA, S. Hiji) were members of the bureau, and bureau facilities such as publications, research studies, etc, were at the disposal of the school, whenever required.

The War Ministry gave an initial grant of ¥150,000 in 1938 for the establishment of the school; this was done through the Military Affairs Department of the ministry (OGAWA KYOKU), through Lt Col KATCHO, Imamura. Subsequently, the Southern Manchurian Railway Company contributed, yearly, ¥50,000, whilst ¥20,000 came from the Foreign Office, no 3 section of the Administration Branch being the source. In 1938 and 1939 the official involved was YANO, Seiki (subsequently consul in Hong Kong); in 1940 and 1941 TAKASE, Jiro (a man who displayed great interest in all the activities of the school); thereafter, until 1943, OGAWA, Seishiro. Apart from this financial assistance, neither the Foreign Office nor the War Ministry (OGAWA insists) had any control over the school or over the selection of students. There was no connection with either Imperial General Headquarters or the Army and Navy General Staffs; nor were there any links with secret or semi-secret societies.

According to OGAWA the purpose of the school was to investigate the real situation in Asia, and to obtain information on all eastern countries "from the Japanese standpoint." His original plan was to send as many intelligent Japanese as possible to the various countries of greater East Asia, in which they were to stay for a period of at least ten years, and during this time they were to get to know their own particular

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country absolutely thoroughly - economically, politically, topographically and racially. He taught his students that Japan was not yet ripe for the "flowering" of Asia; he urged them to concentrate all their energies upon their allotted task, since it was vital for Japan to have men whose thinking and knowledge were supreme - so that in 10 or 20 years Japan would control all Asia. To make their task easier, they were taught "harmony and kindness", so that the peoples of east Asia might realize the true nature of the Japanese.

OGAWA selected his students from youths of about 17 years of age, taken from middle schools throughout Japan. Each year there were fifty candidates, and twenty remained; the selection was supervised personally by OGAWA; students were required to have an adequate knowledge of English, to attain to a high standard in Japanese composition, and to satisfy a board of three or four examiners (including OGAWA) in an interview calculated to test personal qualities.

The course was of two years duration. Students were ultimately divided into eight sections or classes, each of which specialized in one particular country - I. Turkey, II. Arabia, III. Persia, IV. India, V. Siam, VI. French Indo-China, VII. Netherlands East Indies, VIII. Afghanistan. For the first year of the school (1938) only the first four country-sections were in existence, due to insufficient numbers of students, the plan being to dispatch five "graduates" to each of the four countries concerned. In fact, the war interfered with this original intention to send his charges to all eight countries - he succeeded in planting graduates only in India, Java, French Indo-China, Malay and Thailand; one was actually in the consulate at Karachi, en-route for Afghanistan when the war began. (NOTE: Subject, at this stage, cannot remember this individual's name.)

When the students successfully completed the course (and the numbers varied each year) OGAWA endeavored to have them placed in their "own country" through liaison with the Foreign Office, and also with the head offices of numerous overseas commercial firms and newspapers. Some were found positions in various consulates and legations by the Foreign Office (NOTE: These appointments do not appear to have been strictly Foreign Office appointments; in the narrower sense, but rather Japanese appointments; the individual concerned merely listing in the

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consulate and legation, without having any official position or status). Some were planted in the branches of Mitsubishi and Dai-nippon Kaishi (Great Southern Company) - in the case of the latter for example, in Saigon, - where the facilities of the trading company owned by MATSUOKA, Mitsuharu were also utilized. In Singapore several graduates found their way into the Japanese owned "Singapore Shinbun", and in Bangkok the newspaper "Kongpak", which was run largely by the Foreign Office. The Okano Commercial firm in Java, also, received products of the OGAWA School as did a further Japanese newspaper (name forgotten by Subject) in Sourabaya. The Japanese consulate at Calcutta employed certain graduates, whilst one ABEL, Akira, was attached in an indeterminate capacity, to the military attache in Bangkok. OGAWA recalls that of the first course, four went to Java, two to India, one to Malaya, five to French Indo-China, and 5 to Thailand. (NOTE: Subject cannot remember the names of all the graduates and where exactly they were sent over and period of the last seven years, but maintain that KASUYA, Takeo, who was his chief assistant, now living in Chiba City, has in his possession all the records showing precisely who was sent where. It is intended that KASUYA should be interrogated at the earliest possible opportunity and the relevant records produced).

Each country-section concentrated upon two languages:-

- (1) Turkey: French and Turkish, (2) Arabia: Arabic and English,
- (3) Persia: French and Persian, (4) India: English and Hindustani,
- (5) Siam: English and Siamese, (6) French Indo-China: French and Annamese,
- (7) Netherlands East Indies: Malay and Dutch, (8) Afghanistan: English and Persian.

Other fields covered by the curriculum included Political Economy, World History, and Ethics; each section made a detailed geographical study of the country in which it was primarily interested, whilst those destined for Mohammedan countries devoted a substantial part of their time to aspects of the Islamic faith.

3. b. Personalities

KASUYA, Takeo

Chief Assistant to OGAWA. Responsible for the keeping of records where each graduate was sent, and under whose auspices (whether Foreign Office, Commercial firm, overseas newspaper etc.). Now living in Chiba City.

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YAMAGISHI, Hiroshi	Employed by OGAWA in a purely administrative role. Former naval sub-id sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for part in May 15 incident 1932. Has never been outside Japan.	
KAN, Tatsuono	Employed in same capacity as YAMAGISHI. During 1940 and 1941 had been with "KONPAK" Japanese newspaper in Bangkok under Foreign Office control.	
SHIBUO, Koji	Instructor in Turkish and Islamic religion. Formerly student in Istanbul. Believed by OGAWA to be holding post of lecturer in WASEDA University at present time.	
GAJO, Reishi	Instructor in Persian and Hindustani; formerly sent to India by Ministry of Education to learn Hindustani; "loaned" to the language institute by this ministry. Author of treatise on Persia. At present professor in foreign language in the GAIJI SEMON GAKU (Foreign Affairs Institute) in Tokyo.	
PANDAY (Dm)	Brahmin. Disciple of Rash Behari Bose; studied in Japan for many years. OGAWA's main teacher of Hindustani. Speaks fluent Japanese and English. Left Japan in 1942, with Bose, for Bangkok and subsequently, Singapore.	
CHASHI, Eiichi	Professor. Instructor in English. At present with the GAIJI SEMON GAKU in Tokyo.	
KOBAYASHI, Hajime	Instructor in Arabic. Graduate of Tokyo Imperial University; oriental studies. At present professor in the NOKU GAKU IN University.	
MARUYAMA, Jintaro	Teacher of French. Had spent some years in France.	

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TAKAHASHI (?)	Teacher of Annamese; with OGAWA for six months only; formerly a merchant in Saigon; believed by OGAWA to have returned there.
UJI (?)	Teacher of Malay. Graduate of GAKU SEIEN GAKU. No other details.
SATO, Hajime	Instructor in Geography; graduate of Tokyo Imperial University. At present lecturer in the Tokyo SHOKU DAI GAKU (College of Commerce).
MAEJIMA, Shingo	Expert on the KOREAN. Graduate of Tokyo Imperial University; middle-school teacher in FUKUOKA. Member of East Asia Economic Investigation Bureau.
KATOKA, Katsuo	Lecturer in political economy; former associate of OGAWA in the GYOCHUSHA and JIMBU KAI. Member of East Asia Economic Investigation Bureau.

OGAWA cannot recall the name of his teacher in Dutch; he was, however, a Japanese graduate of Leyden University. There was a second Turkish instructor, name forgotten, who was born of Turkish parents, but until 1917 had lived for many years in Russia; when the revolution came, he fled to Japan. OGAWA believes that he died four years ago.

A. C. TORUMU KIKAN.

OGAWA denies that his language school was in any way connected with Tokuma Kikan work; nothing in the form of "JING" ever went on. As unconvincing proof of this he points out that there was no change in the curriculum of his school with the advent of the war, nor were there adopted any different methods of selecting students; the yearly grant remained the same - all of which, in his view, goes against the idea that the language institute was furthering espionage.

He thought that all Tokuma Kikan activities were purely military, the Foreign Office being in no way concerned.

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of the Army General Staff, No. 2 Department was the controlling organ, under Lt Gen ARISUE, Seiso. Central, he imagined, was centralized in Tokyo, but had no idea what measure of independence was enjoyed by Mikans in the field. They were mainly responsible for political work - in China and Manchuria, for instance, they supervised liaison between the puppet governments and the political section of army headquarters concerned. At present, the two most who probably know most about the Tokumai Mikans are ARISUE and DOINARA, Kenji.

4. East Asia Economic Investigation Bureau (TOA KEIZAI CHOSA
KYOKU)

To understand the exact status of this bureau, it is necessary to realize that the South Manchurian Railway Company had its own local economic research department, with head office in DAIKIN, and that the East Asia Bureau existed in Tokyo as a separate entity though under control of the Southern Manchurian Railway. It was founded in 1909 by Baron GOTO (Then President of the Manchurian Railway Company); he had visited the Colonial Institute in Hamburg and, as a result, desired to establish a similar institute in Japan, the object of which was to study the Asiatic picture from the standpoint of world economics. It therefore collected all types of economic material - press reports, publications, periodicals, etc from all possible sources and sent observers into China, especially to Shanghai. It exercised no control over branches of firms abroad, or their representatives.

In 1927 the bureau was separated completely from the South Manchurian Railway Company, becoming a research organization under the Ministry of Education (KOKUO SHO). OGAWA was appointed its director. The suggestion that the separation should be effected came from YAMAMOTO the then president of the South Manchurian Railway, since funds were not sufficient to maintain the bureau as part of the railway company. YAMAMOTO donated ¥1,000,000 to enable the bureau to continue its research.

During OGAWA's term of imprisonment, directorship of the bureau was assumed first, by SATO, Teishiro, and afterward by SATO, Hirofiro. In October 1937, when released, OGAWA, rejoined the bureau but only in an advisory capacity; in the following year it was re-incorporated into the South Manchurian Railway, NAGAJIMA, Seichi, being appointed director.

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The South Manchurian Railway Company maintained four economic research centers in China and Manchuria:-

- a. At HARBIN, center for the collection of economic information on Russia.
- b. At FUSHEN, covering Northern China.
- c. At SHANGHAI, covering central and southern China.
- d. At PEKING, the economic investigation bureau collecting information on all Asiatic countries adjoining China.

5. SOCIETIES

OGAWA has been associated primarily with three societies--the YUSEN SEA (lit., there yet remains (The Truth) Society), the GYOKUSHIYA (lit., the realizing of heavenly principles on earth society), and the JIMEN KAI (Silence Society). The latter two grew out of the YUSEN SEA, which he founded in 1919 in close association with KITA, Idd, KITAHARA, and KAWABATA. KITA has published a book called NIPPON KAIZO HOAN w/plan for complete reformation of Japan" - and the principles outlined in this book provided the corner stone for the society. The organ of the society was "CHAKKI" - "WHY". Private contributions were the only source of funds: society had its headquarters in Ishimizu-cho, Utsunomiya-ku, Tokyo. Other members were CA, Seinos; MATSUOKA, Shigeji; MISHIDA, Chikara.

In 1923 there developed a split within the ranks of the YUSEN SEA, and the more radical group centered around KITA, Idd, and MISHIDA (joined by the famous priest THOUH, Nishio) broke away, with the object of realizing the "reformation" by more violent means. This group, in fact, formed the nucleus for the 1932 incident. OGAWA then disbanded the YUSEN SEA, and together with MATSUOKA, Shigeji, ITO, Tanno, and KATAGIRI, Kikaku, established the GYOKUSHIYA, with headquarters in OGAWA's own house in Nakano, Sugamo-ku Tokyo. They published, monthly, an organ called "HEPTON" (about 1930 copies were sold each month); the program was to view national life from three viewpoints - political, economic, and spiritual, to achieve equality in political life, fraternity in economic life and freedom in spiritual life, and to make the people aware of their human ability to attain to these ideals. Private contributions were the only source of funds.

In 1932, upon the contribution of ¥-60,000 by ISHIBARA, Hirofumi, OGAWA formed the Jimen Kai, the purpose of which was

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to realize the principles of the GECHUSHA. His close associates were SHINOSUKI, Sakurai, KANO, Toki, KATAGAKI, Kikaku, MATSUOKA, Shigeji, and KANAUCHI, Ryosuke. "HIPPO" was adopted as the organ for the society; headquarters in the Tokai Building, Tokyo. KATAGAKI, subsequently, lectured in political economy in OGAWA's language institute delivered lectures in Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, in an endeavor to explain the real situation in Manchuria where, it was claimed, certain Japanese elements were suffering oppression. According to OGAWA the Jinnai Kai did not survive his own imprisonment in June of that same year. (1932)

1919 YUSOH SHI
(Ogawa, Kita, Kishida)

1923 GECHUSHA
(Ogawa, Matsunobu)

Group with KITA, INOUE etc.
(more reactionary - reformation
through violence)

1932 JIBBU KAI
(Ogawa, Katsuta, Shinobuchi) Feb 26th Incident

May 15th
Incident

OGAWA has produced in writing a brief account of his own part in the May 15th Incident; he gave ROGA and Murakami (the ring leaders) 25,000, pistols and ammunition, being assured of "the purity of their motives" in planning their "political reform."

(The original document is available for scrutiny by interested sections.)

----- K.C.P. -----